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The Paranormal Seekers visited the Dominion Hotel on Sunday Aug. 4. From left, Alison, Kaz, Rachel, Paula, Jay, Ryan, and Cathy conducted the investigation. /TIM YANO Special to The *Times*

The Paranormal Seekers find activity at Dominion Hotel

by **THOMAS SMITH**
Editor

A few months ago, The Paranormal Seekers, a paranormal investigation group based in Durham Region investigated the Sterling Bank at the Minden Cultural Centre. Afterwards, the group contacted Shawn Chamberlin about investigating the Dominion Hotel. Shawn Chamberlin, owner of the Dominion Hotel, says that the Dominion Hotel is the oldest building in Haliburton County. While Chamberlin has had amateur paranormal enthusiasts stay and investigate paranormal happenings, he has never been approached by a professional group of paranormal investigators before.

"There are a lot of stories about the Dominion Hotel. A lot of these stories are more about things that happened here. Funny doors that open," said Chamberlin. "We have a cougher. We have somebody who coughs in the pub area and we don't know who it is and we are the only ones there. It is so real that at different times my son has said bless you, not realizing there is nobody there."

"Just strange things happen, like sometimes a door opens on its own. Sometimes in the kitchen a door will just open and we think somebody will want to come in or go out,"

see DOMINION page 2

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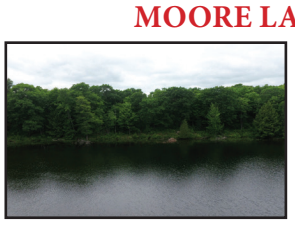

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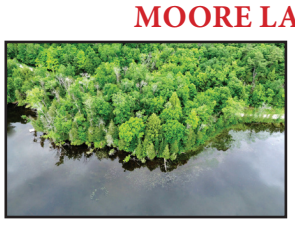

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Shawn Chamberlin shows the Paranormal Investigators around the Dominion Hotel. /TIM YANO Special to the *Times*

Dominion Hotels offers spirits

from page 1

said Elli Chamberlin.

"We have things like people walking or people complaining that there was a party upstairs, but they were on the top floor. So that is kind of weird," said Shawn Chamberlin with a laugh.

The ground floor of the Dominion Hotel is the restaurant and reception area. On the second floor, there are six rooms for guests to rent. The third floor is an attic they use for storage.

"About a month ago, someone complained of someone walking above them," said Shawn Chamberlin. Interestingly, there was only roof above that guest's room.

Chamberlin said that The Paranormal Seekers split themselves into two groups. One group, called the 'sensitives' rely on their spiritual connection to communicate and validate experiences with supernatural entities. The other group uses scientific equipment such as EMF readers to capture and validate paranormal events. To ensure the 'sensitive' group's credibility, they were not told the exact location of the investigation beforehand.

"They were really really transparent with everything going on," said Shawn Chamberlin. "We were welcomed to watch or even to participate if we wanted. I sat with them for a fair bit, but didn't want to get in their way."

Chamberlin says that all guests are welcome to attempt to connect to supernatural forces and larger groups of supernatural investigators are more than welcomed.

Chameberlin says that unexplainable things happen frequently in the world around us.

"You really have to be receptive. Not everybody is observant. A lot of things that go on require you to be observant," said Shawn Chamberlin. "A lot of people wouldn't notice something like a flickering light or footsteps after everybody has gone to bed."

"We do see a lot of things that we can't explain."

"It's funny because anybody that has any sort of experience, they don›t realize they are having it," said Shawn Chamberlin.

"We had a lady staying at one of our rooms in the wintertime. In the morning, she thanked me for the great night and sending in a housekeeper to check in on me," said Shawn Chamberlin. The woman told him that a housekeeper came into her room and stood by her bed. She described her body whelmed with a feeling of warmth, niceness, and that she was cared for. The Dominion Hotel does have a housekeeper.

On another occasion, Shawn's son was staying at the Dominion Hotel and heard music from the 1920s and 1930s. Thinking a clock radio was left on, he went to investigate but found them all unplugged. At night, they have seen chairs move on their security cameras.

It is those kinds of things that happen, said Shawn Chamberlin.

"Just because you cannot explain it doesn't mean it didn't

see CONTACT page 3

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Contact from beyond the grave

from page 2

happen."

"We do have the girl in the attic who shows herself periodically," said Shawn Chamberlin. "There is nobody living in the attic. There are a lot of people that have seen it and it is one of the stories that everybody tells."

In a post to their Facebook page, The Paranormal Seekers said that as soon as they began their investigation at the Dominion Hotel, they had three separate K2 meters and two different REM pods all spike in and around the bathtub in room four.

"These energy spikes seemed to correlate to our questions, beeping and flashing lights in response. The team was unable to find a logical explanation as to why multiple pieces of equipment would react in such a way," said their post. The team says that they had numerous encounters throughout the night including three separate figures appearing on SLS camera and their strip lights and Spirit Bell activating.

«We were thrilled to head back to Minden and were completely blown away by the activity we encountered,» said their post.

"Sunday night after the folks had left we were sitting in the pub doing a wrap up and all the lights were off. All of a sudden, one of the lights came on. It was like it was on a dimmer," said Shawn Chamberlin. "The switch was off and there was no power to it." In addition, their computer near the front was flashing on and off.

"It was such a great experience, it was fun, and a little enlightening and maybe a little frightening too," said Shawn Chamberlin.

The REM pod showed a high level of activity in room number four.

Ryan holds an EMF reader to detect electromagnetic field levels.

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COUNCIL MEETINGS VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON

Council and Closed Session meetings are currently being conducted with a hybrid model of in-person (Council Chambers, 7 Milne St., Minden) and electronic participation in accordance with the Municipal Act. Meetings begin at 9:00 am unless otherwise noted. The scheduled upcoming meetings are:

- **August 29 – Regular Council Meeting**
- **September 12 – Regular Council Meeting**

Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by attending in-person or via the live-stream link on the Township CivicWeb Portal at https://mindenhills.civicweb.net/Portal/MeetingTypeList.aspx. Visit our website for more information.

UPCOMING HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE EVENT

Mark your calendars for the next HHW event taking place Saturday, August 24, 2024 from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. at the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena. Please ensure you have your valid waste disposal card.

FALL PROGRAM REGISTRATION

Adult and Youth fall program registration is Tuesday August 19, 2024. Registration opens at 9:00am in person at SG Nesbitt Memorial Arena or online at https://townshipofmindenhills.perfectmind.com/

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MINDEN HILLS Cultural Centre

MINDEN HILLS CULTURAL CENTRE

- Don't miss the final week of Flower Orphanage the latest exhibit installation by Michèle Karch-Ackerman. The exhibit is on display at the Agnes Jamieson Gallery until August 17. The Gallery is open Tuesday to Saturday from 10 am – 4 pm. Check out our online calendar for more info.
- The Agnes Jamieson Gallery is pleased to announce the upcoming exhibit Voice of Pride, a partnership with Minden Pride and Scott Michael Walling, featuring artwork by emerging and established queer artists. The exhibit will be on display in the Welch Room August 13-31, with a reception scheduled for Tuesday, August 20 from 5-7 pm. All are welcome.
- Join us under the stars on Thursday, August 15 at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre for our last outdoor movie night of the summer! We will be presenting Brave (2012). Don't forget your lawn chair, blanket and snacks! If it rains, the event will take place inside the Cultural Centre. Admission is by donation. No pre-registration is required. This film is rated PG.
- Attention all crafters! The UFO Group is returning to the Minden Hills Cultural Centre on Friday, August 16 from 1-3 pm. Bring a beverage, a snack and your unfinished project to work on.
- The Minden Hills Museum, Heritage Village and Nature's Place are open Tuesday to Saturday from 10 am – 4 pm. Join us for daily tours and drop-in programs: Learn a new language every Wednesday morning at 11 am in the Multilingual Schoolhouse, taste some Early Setter Baking on Thursday, August 15 at 11 am, and learn to Crochet a Square on Saturday, August 17 at 2 pm. Admission is by donation.

For more information on all the programs and exhibits offered at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre: email culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca or call 705-286-3763.call 705-286-3763.

COUNCIL EDUCATION AND TRAINING SESSION

Take Notice there will be a Council Education and Training Session held Thursday, August 22, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. This tour is an educational opportunity to review key infrastructure and areas in Minden Hills and will not be used to advance the business or decision-making of Council.

Dated this 6th day of August 2024.
If you have any questions, please contact:
Vicki Bull, Clerk
(705) 286-1260 Ext 515
vbull@mindenhills.ca

PUBLIC MEETING - PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE TOWNSHIP'S FEES AND CHARGES BY-LAW

Take notice that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills will be holding a Public Meeting on Thursday, September 12, 2024, during its Regular Council Meeting regarding Proposed changes to the Township's Fees and Charges By-law.

The meeting will commence at 9:00 AM in the Council Chambers located at 7 Milne Street, Minden ON. Detailed information to follow the week of August 19, 2024.

Dated this 7th day of August, 2024.
If you have any questions, please contact:
Vicki Bull, Clerk
(705) 286-1260 Ext 515
vbull@mindenhills.ca

NOTICE OF PROPOSED ROAD NAMING BY-LAW

Take Notice that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills will consider a proposed Road Naming By-law at its August 29th, 2024, Regular Council meeting. The purpose is to provide for the naming and renaming of private roads accommodating the addition/revisions within the Township of Minden Hills.

Notice of proposed changes is pursuant to Section 48 of the Municipal Act 2001, as amended, and are as follows:

New Roads
- Finlander Lane
- Piper Glen Road
- Twin Bay Trail

Road Name Change
Currently known as "Clansman Drive", proposed name change "Big Orillia Lake Drive"

A copy of the proposed By-law is available at the Township Office or Township's website.

Dated the 6th day of August 2024.
If you have any questions, please contact:
Vicki Bull, Clerk
Township of Minden Hills
7 Milne Street Minden, ON K0M 2K0
(705) 286-1260 ext. 215
E-mail admin@mindenhills.ca

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MH expands safety zone on roads

by JAMES MATTHEWS
Times Staff

Minden Hills will soon have more of its roadway inventory included under the Community Safety Zone umbrella.

Mike Timmins, the township's public works director, said during council's Aug. 8 meeting that expanding Community Safety Zones was a topic of discussion during the debate to establish the 2024 municipal operating and capital budget.

The proposal was to designate the portion of Water Street from Bobcaygeon Road to Highway 35 as a Community Safety Zone and to stretch the existing zone on Bobcaygeon Road from Sunnybrook Bridge to Highway 35.

Township council must pass a bylaw to make it official.

Timmins said the move would include the installation of signs every 300 metres to demark the safety zone. That's a very long stretch of thoroughfare that will require many signs, he said.

Municipal staff will also inform the Ontario Provincial Police.

There will be a kind of community safety awareness week when the signs will be installed and accompanying information will be distributed to residents.

The department plans to have everything done by Aug. 19-23 to be in time for the new school year's beginning.

"There are some ancient versions up towards the cemetery, but we will be replacing those (Community Safety Zone signs) with the updated version," Timmins said.

"I'm not in opposition to what you're suggesting here," said Deputy Mayor Lisa Schell.

She sat at the table when the first safety zone near the public school was created in Minden Hills, she said. Concern was expressed at that time about extending the zone beyond the school area.

Council and staff at that time were concerned that a greater zone would "dilute" the public's understanding of how important the zone is in front of the school, Schell said.

"I'm just asking your opinion on this just so council is aware of why it wasn't extended the first time," she said.

"I think, probably, things have changed since then," Timmins said. "I think the town is probably busier. If you go through our town on a busy day, I think a little extra attention to traffic calming would probably be beneficial."

Minden Hills scores aces on water treatment, distribution

by JAMES MATTHEWS
Times Staff

The provincial government has no concerns about the integrity of the Minden and Lutterworth drinking water systems.

Mike Timmins, Minden Hills' public works director, told council Aug. 8 that the provincial Ministry of Environment, Conservation, and Parks inspection reports contain no red flags about either municipal water systems.

The municipality operates water treatment and distribution systems in the Village of Minden and the Lutterworth Pines community. These facilities must operate in compliance with its respective Environmental Compliance Approval.

The system is operated by the Ontario Clean Water Agency (OCWA).

The facilities that manage water and wastewater collection are subject to inspection by the ministry. Timmins said in a report to council inspections may require the township to provide supplementary plans, reports, and data.

The provincial inspector determined that all elements of the inspection met the legislative requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act and there were no action items issued to the township.

But the inspection reports were not without some recommendations that were not compliance issues, he said. Rather, the suggestions conform to the ministry's outlined best practices.

The inspector indicated that the township and OCWA should make a greater effort to promote water conservation and reduce water loss in the system; a backflow prevention program and bylaw should be in place; and a bylaw limiting access to fire hydrants should be on the books.

Timmins said the conservation effort would include some type of messaging aimed at the public. The public accessing fire hydrants isn't something the municipality has encountered.

"But I suppose best practice is to have a bylaw in place, so we can certainly look into that," he said.

"Who else would hook up to a fire hydrant?" Councillor Tammy McKelvey said. "Do they not need a special key?"

"You don't really need a special key," Timmins said. "All you really need is a wrench. We get the odd request from contractors for bulk water. We don't allow it. We just tell them no."

Coun. Pam Sayne said she's pleased to see the conservation issue return to the fore. It's been talked about for a long time and many municipalities have taken some great water conservation initiatives, she said.

> "Who else would hook up to a fire hydrant?"
>
> — COUNCILLOR TAMMY MCKELVEY

One of those initiatives adopted by some centres is to give their residents discounts at hardware stores for low-flush toilets.

"If we can look at and consider some of these options on how we might be able to weigh the cost of the septic going through versus the low-flush toilet and how much we can pay for an incentive for people to actually make that change I think would be something that other municipalities have done that would benefit us," Sayne said.

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Burner Herzog coming to Agnes Jamieson Gallery

by **THOMAS SMITH**
Editor

On Aug. 22, the Burner Herzog exhibit by Gary Blundell and Victoria Ward will be opening at the Agnes Jamieson Gallery. Near Blundell and Ward's log cabin home in Highlands East is an abandoned sawdust burner. It is believed that it is the last of its kind in Ontario.

"It's an homage in a sense to Werner Herzog, who we admire, and think is a landscape artist. The monumental aspect of the burner inspired Gary to call it that as we joked about it with a film crew we brought there," said the duo.

Blundell and Ward say that the machine would have burnt wood waste in a pulping operation until the seventies or eighties, burning wood waste 24 hours per day.

"When I first saw the burner, it looked like something out of medieval Europe, like in a Brueghel painting. We'd never seen anything like this," said Blundell.

"It was the first time I'd seen an abandoned industrial building that actually ignited my imagination. It was unworldly at first because we didn't know what it was," said Ward.

Blundell and Ward's work reminds the viewer that they themselves are a part of nature.

"There is no such thing as a pure wilderness-based landscape painting. The minute you are in the wilderness to depict it, you are still putting your stamp on the area. You, like the resource-based industry are still there, intertwined into the landscape with all the notions and beliefs you bring with you."

"We don't necessarily believe in the idea of wilderness – every living thing interferes with the wilderness. Humans just do it on a massive scale comparatively."

Blundell and Ward love being artists and believe it is a core aspect of their being.

"All my early memories are about shapes and colour," said Blundell. "I nearly died a couple of times so that helps you make decisions about your life."

"I can't remember a time I didn't make art," said Ward.

Blundell and Ward have not always been residents of Haliburton County, but are very happy with finding their log cabin in Highlands East.

"We lived in a warehouse in Toronto that wasn't an official residence. It was kind of chaotic. But we left all the time to make our artwork. We wanted to be rural. We found this original log cabin that we have spent the last decades looking after, hopefully well, and we feel privileged to do so."

Blundell and Ward consider themselves the dynamic duo. "Gary is definitely Robin," said Ward.

"I have no desire to do anything other than painting," said Blundell. "I consider myself a painter first, an artist second."

"I don't dictate to the landscape what I am going to do with it. I like to explore the land and then figure out what works best," said Blundell.

"I've done a bunch of different things; writing, theatre, film," said Ward. "I can easily say that painting is the most rewarding but I cannot explain why. It seems like a vocation sometimes."

Blundell, trained professionally as a geologist, considers his work in Geology and art as being connected.

"I've always had a thing for patterns since university. It impacted on me wanting to be an artist and all the work I make is about patterns on the earth, and/or our use of the earth's resources," said Blundell.

For Ward, her experience as a playwright has deeply impacted her work.

"Being in theatre made me feel as though I was an artist. I learned how to make something out of nothing which is all we really do when you think about it. I also took a lot of other courses at university though because my curiosity about the world and how things work and how stuff evolves will always interest me," said Ward. "Boredom is death as my mother would say. The move to visual arts was quite lateral really, it was time. I had always wanted to do visual stuff but never had the confidence. Meeting Gary helped with that."

"I work a lot in the 'land of the forgotten or abandoned', it's kind of my jam," said Ward. "Aging has been really extraordinary, I won't say exciting but having so much of my community and world shed or disappear around me has made me think that perhaps I was training myself this whole time."

Burner Herzog: An Exhibit by Gary Blundell and Victoria Ward will be on display Aug. 22 to Nov. 23. A reception with Blundell and Ward will be taking place on Aug. 24 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Everyone is welcome to the event. The Agnes Jamieson Gallery is a public gallery that is open Tuesday to Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and admission is by donation. The gallery is a part of the Minden Hills Cultural Centre which includes the Heritage Village and Nature Place Interpretive Centre on the premises.

Vandalism on the rise

by **JAMES MATTHEWS**
Times Staff

Minden Hills Mayor Bob Carter is disheartened by vandalism and damage to public structures.

He said during township council's Aug. 8 meeting that vandalism has become a problem in each of the four lower tier municipalities in Haliburton County.

"The amount of vandalism and damage that is being caused to public structures and buildings and so on is extremely disappointing," Carter said.

The culprits are younger kids, he said, and some of them are people old enough to know better. Municipal staff has spoken to officers at the local Ontario Provincial Police detachment.

"But the police can't be everywhere, particularly late at night," Carter said.

He implored people who witness vandalism to inform the township.

"It costs us all money when we have to do repairs on public buildings and so on," he said. "It, unfortunately, over the last while has been increasing as opposed to decreasing."

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2 IGA Road, Box 97
Minden, ON, K0M 2K0
• 705-286-1288 • Fax 705-286-4768
Published by White Pine Media Corp

DAVID ZILSTRA
Publisher and Ad Director,
david.zilstra@gmail.com

JENNIFER MCEATHRON,
General Manager and Sales
jenniferm@haliburtonpress.com

THOMAS SMITH, Editor
thomas@haliburtonpress.com

JAMES MATTHEWS, Reporter
james@haliburtonpress.com

VIVIAN COLLINGS, Reporter
vivian@haliburtonpress.com

KAREN LONDON
Production Co-ordinator
karen@haliburtonpress.com

REED SACHAROFF
Production

LAURA SMITH, Sales
laura@haliburtonpress.com

PAUL BANELOPOULOS, Sales
paul@haliburtonpress.com

INSIDE SALES
classifieds@haliburtonpress.com

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Toxic tampons

WOMEN'S MEDICINE has had a troubling history.

In 2020, the French study *Circulation: Cardiovascular Quality and Outcomes* was the first medical journal to describe the women under the age of 55 as having variation in symptom combinations of a heart attack and not just a difference in individual symptoms than in men. Only recently has science and medicine begun to research women's health and differentiate medical knowledge of women's bodies from men's bodies.

The heart attack symptoms for men are typically chest pain, dizziness and shortness of breath.

The heart attack symptoms for women differ and include back pain, jaw pain, indigestion, and pain in the arms. Sometimes there is no pain or discomfort in the chest for women at all during a heart attack.

THOMAS SMITH
Editor

In 2024, a new study from UC Berkeley showed that tampons from several brands contain toxic metals like lead, arsenic and cadmium. This is of particular concern to women's health as the skin of the vagina has some of the highest potential for chemical and contaminant absorption than other areas of the body. An estimated 50 to 80 per cent of menstruation products used are tampons, often worn for several hours at a time. All 30 tampons showed evidence of toxic metals, with arsenic being highest in organic tampons and lead being highest in non-organic tampons.

These toxic metals contribute to things like infertility, dementia, diabetes and cancer. They damage your liver, kidneys, brain, cardiovascular system and nervous system. They are even detrimental to fetal development.

These metals could have found their way into tampons through a variety of ways. The soil, water, or air could have been contaminated where the cotton was grown to create them. They could also be intentionally added to the tampon as a whitener, pigment, scent, or antibacterial agent.

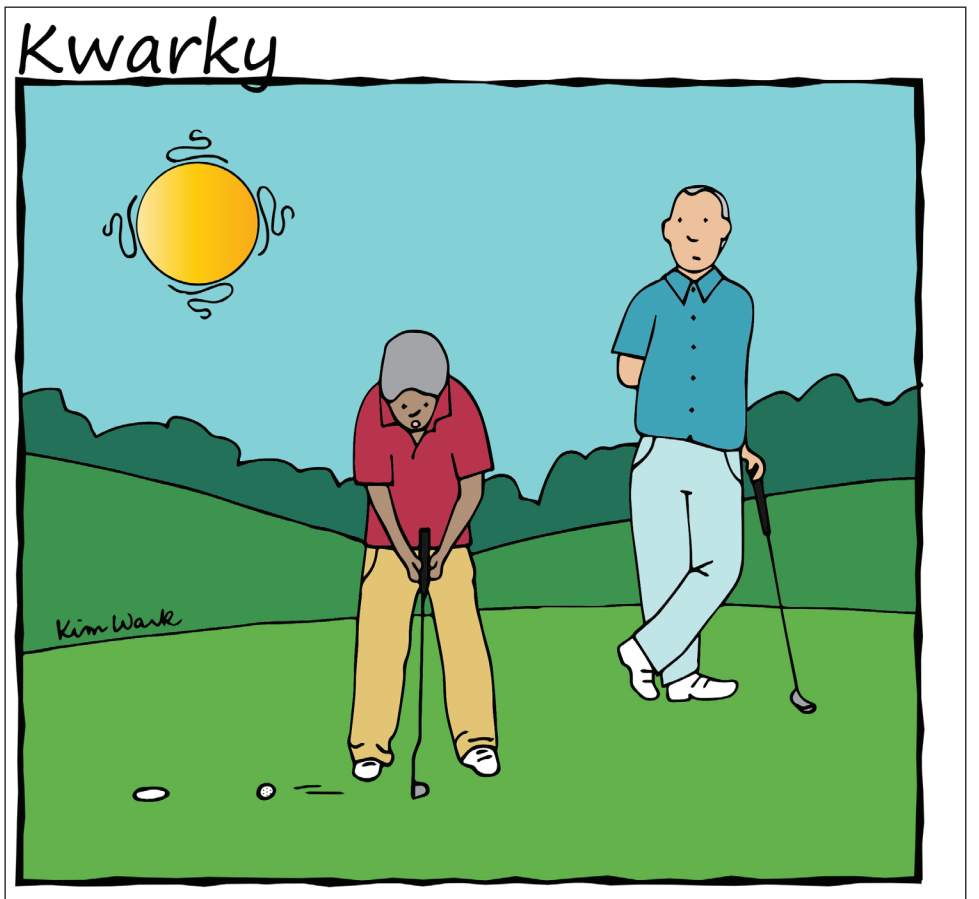
There is a wide variety of menstruation products that can confuse and boggle the minds of men. Tampons, pads, panty liners, diva cups. Some with wings, some scented, with a variety of shapes, colours and sizes. As a necessity to those experiencing the plights of menstruation, these products need to be regulated and tested for harmful contaminants. You may have noticed that baby powders have changed their formula to being cornstarch based. This is due to the numerous lawsuits of talcum powder causing cancer.

Flo, a period tracking app came under fire as it was revealed that the company had been selling sensitive information from their users to Facebook. Flo told Facebook when a user was on their period or trying to get pregnant. A gross mishandling of information and trust. Could you have guessed that the creators of the Flo app are men?

Societal misogyny and medical sexism will continue to cost women's lives. There are countless drugs that seem to not work for female bodies. Not only is medical research typically done with only white men, but only tested on male lab rats as well.

Something needs to be changed. More research needs to be done. We need more women in the sciences. Men need to realize the damage that has been done when not considering both sexes. Even discussing menstruation is something that is stigmatized today. The mere mention of a period can clear men out of a room. Menstruation is natural and to save women's lives, fellas, we are going to have to talk about menstruation a lot more.

(Men, if you need help buying feminine hygiene products for someone, I recommend taking a picture.)



"I golf the same hours I worked before retiring, but I feel like I accomplish way more."

Give me shelter

LAST WEEKEND I spent a great amount of time outside. Like most outdoors enthusiasts, my purpose for being out in the rain was to test how much water my outdoors garb could absorb. We anglers and hunters understand that this is important information. That's because we recognize that one day, we might have to wring out water from our socks to boil tea with.

So much for the high point of the weekend.

After the fourth deluge, I began thinking about where it all went wrong. And the answer, it turns out, was umbrellas.

STEVE GALEA
Beyond 35

I have never seen an outdoorsman or outdoorswoman carry an umbrella. Perhaps because there has never been an umbrella tailor-made for hunting and fishing.

It is not as if we outdoorsy types are incapable of great inventions. After all, we are the people who invented frostbite, hypothermia, sunburn, and poison ivy rashes.

Surely, we can invent an umbrella that will not incite too many Mary Poppins references.

In some ways, I suppose our lack of umbrellary is a practical thing.

Early in our outdoors history, umbrellas were shunned in most deer and fishing camps because frankly, a good rainfall was the only shower most anglers and hunters took.

Later, when we realized even a rain shower didn't help, we still shunned umbrellas. Mostly because it was difficult to cast a fly rod while holding an umbrella. Also, an umbrella was not easy to carry on a bow hunt or any hunt where you required the use of two hands on short notice.

But I don't think that's what it is really about. After all, long ago, if you can recall, some genius invented the umbrella hat, which was, for those too young to remember, a hat that opened into an umbrella – something I still consider to be one of the greatest inventions ever.

Sure, it was a little too fashion forward for most outdoorsmen and women. And it was understandable that we didn't want to wear something that swanky. On the plus side, it allowed us to have both hands free and ensured that no one entered our personal space – unless they were shorter than you.

Inexplicably, they did not catch on.

I'm guessing because no one ever made them in camouflage or hunter orange, but who can say for sure.

I actually think the reason is we sometimes just prefer to get rained on. Rain, after all, can be beneficial to a hunter or angler, by covering up a multitude of embarrassments – primarily, those caused by being startled by a lightning strike or bear.

Rain – in the deluge form – can also provide much needed excuses. It can be cited as the reason why you didn't catch fish, or why your casting was so sloppy. You can also curse it when you miss an easy shot by suggesting it deflected your bird shot or made it too difficult to use your scope or sights, or caused your trigger to be too slippery to press correctly.

Most importantly, I suppose, is that it takes just takes getting hit by one or two rain drops a year for a person to be able to claim that he or she is not a fair-weather hunter or angler. Although, as I get older, that seems like a designation that denotes intelligence. Along with not wearing an umbrella hat, I suppose.

InOtherWords

Columns and Letters to the Editor

Edged out

IN PRODUCT design, particularly software design, there's something referred to as an edge case. Originally, the term referred to a product experiencing an unanticipated use at the maximum of its operating parameters. Edge case doesn't refer to a product being used for something it shouldn't (the classic using a screwdriver as a prybar comes to mind), rather a product being used for what it was designed to do, but under conditions that weren't anticipated by the designers. Unfortunately, edge case is often a term used to narrow product design to a very homogeneous set of "average" users.

In my household, we recently purchased a new vehicle, replacing our over ten year old car. In the years since we bought our old car, Advanced Driver Assistance Systems (ADASes) have become much more standard in vehicles. ADASes are safety systems which do things like warn of hazards that may cause a collision and might even apply the vehicle breaks in an emergency. Our new vehicle came equipped with this kind of system, and we soon became used to its insistent warnings that the threshold of our garage was putting us in imminent danger, or that I was getting way too close to the pile of snow at the end of our turnaround.

ERIN KERNOHAN-BERNING

Humans and Technology

According to the American Automobile Association (AAA), an issue with ADASes is that they are often tested under ideal conditions. This means that your vehicle's safety systems may never have encountered snow, rain, ice, or bug death on your windshield. The problem with ADASes in adverse conditions is that their censors can stop "seeing" the road and fail to prevent the very same collisions they might prevent in ideal conditions. This limited testing means that for almost half the year, you may effectively be an edge case as far as this system's design is concerned.

Edge cases aren't supposed to describe people, according to designer Michael Wilson. However, edge cases certainly affect people. And when a product's target audience is large, such as anyone driving a modern vehicle, even a small percentage of edge cases adds up to a very large number. We found ourselves in those unanticipated conditions when driving to Toronto in some very wintery weather. With the car caked in icy slush and no easy way en route to turn off the widgets that were now doing their best impression of HAL 9000, it made an already strenuous drive even more harrowing. Organizations like AAA recommend against relying on ADASes in inclement weather, especially in the winter.

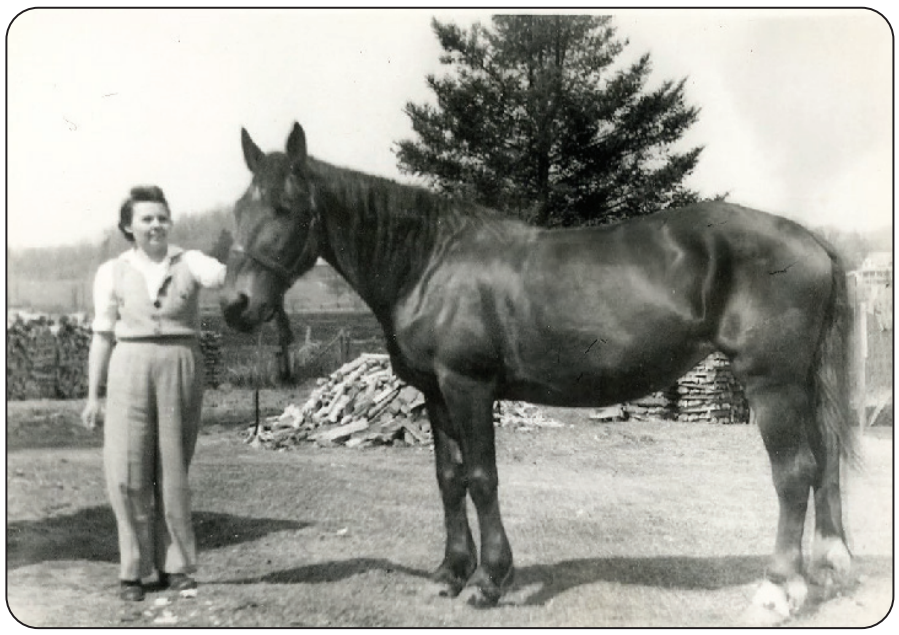
Other examples of edge cases have very large sets of users who have to suffer through them. An app not working because of poor internet connectivity? Welcome to rural Ontario among many other places where people live and don't have great internet. AI voice assistants that are only trained in English in a specific American accent? Sorry the rest of the entire world.

Edge cases become especially problematic when they are used to justify a design that further marginalizes an already marginalized group. As an example, censors for handsfree operation of faucets and soap dispensers are notorious for not working well for people who have darker skin. Voice assistants not understanding women's voices as well as men's is another. Capacitive touch screens being more difficult for older people to use because aging skin has a harder time retaining moisture (which is needed for a touch screen to work) is yet another.

Better products come from designing for the widest variety of people and circumstances as possible. OXO Good Grips, the kitchen utensil company, was originally started when founder Sam Farber noticed his wife was having difficulty gripping kitchen tools due to arthritis. The brand is often a favourite of reviewers such as America's Test Kitchen and The Wirecutter. OXO Good Grips even details how they design and test their products "beyond 'normal' consumer use" on their blog. They have built a business model on not just designing for the average user, and they've created well regarded and sought after products as a result.

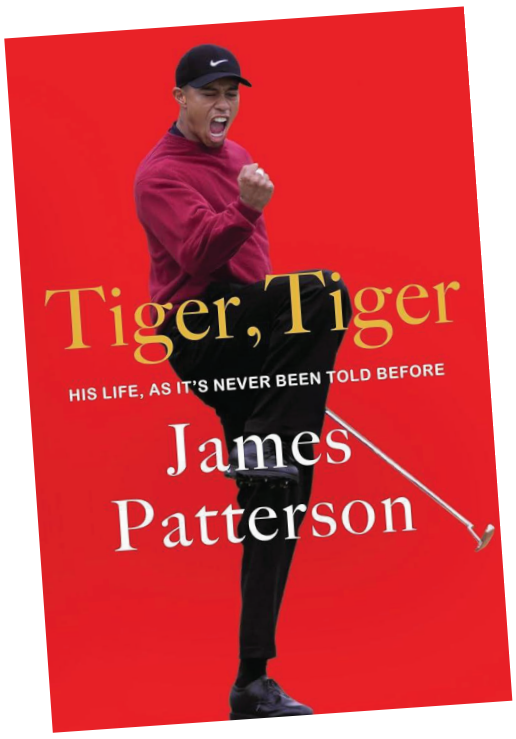
Often, in the rush to implement a new technology, designers forget to stop and ask who they are designing for. Rather, the desire is to quickly make something that works well for a simplified definition of "the average user" under ideal conditions in order to get a product out the door. Too often this "average user" looks a lot like the peers of the designers themselves, statistically that trends heavily toward white, male, and urban. This means that great swaths of users simply never have products that are designed for them and their circumstances. As designer Mike Monteiro said in Ruined by Design, "When you decide who you're designing for, you're making an implicit statement about who you're not designing for."

Minden Memories



Laura Kirkwood stands beside a horse. /Photo courtesy of the Minden Hills Cultural Centre

HCPL's Book of the Week



Tiger Woods is unrivaled as an athlete. He made the ultimate commitment to his chosen sport – and transformed it. Before the age of twenty-five, he rose to phenomenon status: twice named "Sportsman of the Year" by Sports Illustrated; won more than thirty professional tournaments; and became the youngest player to win pro golf's four Grand Slam tournaments. How did he become the G.O.A.T., what drove him to fall so spectacularly, and how has he made his way back to the pinnacle of golf?

Tiger, Tiger: His Life, As It's Never Been Told Before by James Patterson and Peter de Jonge is available to borrow from the Haliburton County Public Library.

Raising future monarchs

Carol Pasternak is a motivational nature speaker who has been dubbed the 'Monarch Crusader'. She presented her talk 'Raising Monarch Butterflies: The How and the Why' on Tuesday Aug. 6 for the Minden and District Hroticultural Society. SOme lucky geusts were able to take home caterpillars to care for and release in the future. /TIM YANO Special to the *Times*

Some wiggly monarch butterfly caterpillars.

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Minden Hills pays $11K for removal of trees

by JAMES MATTHEWS
Times Staff

If a tree falls in Minden Hills, does its removal become the responsibility of the municipality?

That question was debated during council's Aug. 8 meeting when councillors pored over invoices that totalled the $440,296 paid out.

Boshkung Tree Service in Algonquin Highlands was paid $11,074 to remove trees

If that's the amount to remove a tree, Councillor Bob Sisson said the work should have been tendered other than opting for a single vendor.

Mike Timmins, the township's public works director, described an emergency situation in which a downed tree had to be dealt with immediately.

"It was an urgent blocking of rivers scenario," Timmins said.

"Where was this tree?" Coun. Ivan Ingram said.

"This tree was on the river, Gull River, up Deep Bay Road," Timmins said

"How far up there?" Ingram said.

"A couple kilometres," Timmins said.

"I don't understand why we're cutting trees," Ingram said.

He said there's a similar problem with a tree on a piece of the Irondale River, if the municipality is starting to remove trees from public land.

"I understand we're to look after trees that aren't normally looked after but, to me, that's a bit of a stretch," Ingram said.

Deputy Mayor Lisa Schell said council discussed the Gull River tree as part of deliberations to ink the 2024 capital and operational municipal budget.

"Because it was considered a danger tree and there was not enough money, was my understanding," she said. "And then it did fall so we kind of had to (remove it)."

"During budget (discussions) we were told about a tree," said Coun. Tammy McKelvey. "I honestly thought it was on Orange (Drive) and I had assumed it was on the shoreline allowance up the river that we look after between the walking path and that sort of thing."

She said council information indicates the tree was at 34 Water Street, which is incorrect.

"I think we need a policy going forward on whether we're going to do these trees in front of private property," McKelvey said. "That's what this was. This wasn't our shoreline allowance along the river walk."

"It's a navigable waterway, right?" said Mayor Bob Carter.

"We have a lot of those," McKelvey said. "If a tree falls down in front of your house, are we going to go and get it?"

Carter said he's dealt with such incidents himself.

McKelvey said council has to pay the invoice from Boshkung Tree Service, but there should be a policy to provide clear direction for similar future situations.

Cynthia Fletcher, the township's CAO, said there is indeed a need to set out where and when the municipality will do tree work. She said staff can weigh whether or not a policy or an operating procedure is needed for such decisions.

Parents can upload student vaccine records online

by JAMES MATTHEWS
Times Staff

Public health officials rolled out a new online immunization update portal in time for the imminent start of the new school year.

The portal offers a simple and convenient way for parents and guardians to upload their children's immunization records directly to the health unit. The portal is available at hkpr.on.ca/Immunization.

Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit (HKPR) officials say the Immunization Update Portal represents an ongoing commitment to facilitating the reporting of immunizations required under the Immunization of School Pupils Act (ISPA).

Since the health unit does not receive automatic updates from healthcare providers, the portal makes it easier for parents to ensure their child's immunization records are current and compliant.

Marianne Rock, manager of HKPR's health protection division, said the initiative is vital for maintaining accurate records and supporting the health and safety of the community, especially as children return to school.

"With the school year fast approaching, it's crucial that children are up to date with all their vaccinations," she said. "Ensuring all vaccinations are current is vital for the health of our community."

She said there were more than 6,000 students with immunization records overdue to be updated at the beginning of the 2023-24 school year. Now there are only about 1,500 students currently overdue.

"Keeping immunizations up to date not only protects your child but also supports overall community health," Rock said.

HKPR sent 1,578 notices on Aug. 7 to inform parents that children are overdue for the vaccines that are required under the legislation.

To support families without a family doctor, Rock said the unit is offering walk-in immunization clinics. Appointments can be scheduled by visiting hkpr.on.ca/Immunization.

Parents and guardians wishing to seek exemption from vaccination for their child are asked to visit the Health Unit's website at hkpr.on.ca/Exemptions.

Parents and guardians are urged to act promptly to avoid disruptions to their child's education.

"Ensuring immunizations are up to date not only protects your child but also helps prevent outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases in our community," the health unit said in a press release.

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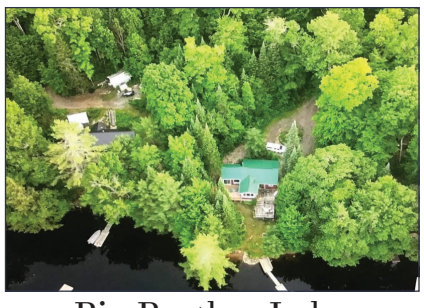
Haliburton Lake Rd
$310,000

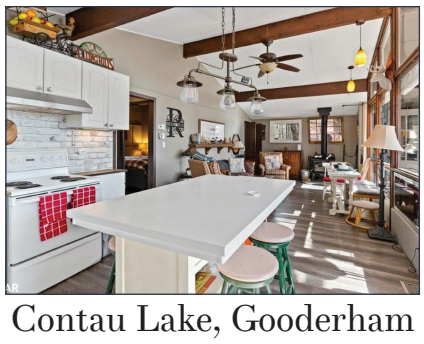
Loop Rd., Harcourt
$699,000

Battelle Rd., Bancroft
$485,000

PT LT 26 Con 3
$40,000


Big Brother Lake,
Algonquin Highlands
$699,000

Beech Lake
North Shore Road
$599,000


Contau Lake, Gooderham
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Minden Rotaryfest Agenda

Where: Downtown Minden
When: Saturday, Aug. 17 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

What is happening?

Live Music
Canoe FM with DJ Dan
Games:
Corn Hole
Children's wooden Car Decorating and Racing
Fishing Pond
Wiffle Ball
Minnow Races
Face Painting
Merchant Sales and Silent Auction Items
Jail House at Omhhh
Water Bucket Soak

Food: Corn on the Cob, Popcorn,
Hot Dogs and more!
Exhibits from our Community Partners
Raffle for a Pedal Car and 2 Corn Hole Games
50/50 Draw

Community events sponsored by
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Send your event listing to classifieds@haliburtonpress.com

Bawaajigan - To Dream

When: Monday, Aug.12 to Friday, Aug. 16
Where: Haliburton School of Art + Design, 297 College Dr.
The Haliburton Sculpture Forest is excited to announce that Indigenous artist, Jared Tait will be leading, as our artist in residence, a community engagement art event. Community members are invited to participate in this free, drop in event, where they will learn about the woodland style of painting and create a number of 3-dimensional woodland style figures which will be placed in the Sculpture Forest. The finished work will be unveiled on Saturday, Aug.17 at 11:00 a.m. For more information visit: www.haliburtonsculptureforest.ca or email: outreach@haliburtonsculptureforest.ca

Anniversary Celebration Corn Roast

When: Thursday August 15 at 6 p.m.
Where: Red Cross Outpost Museum, 2314 Loop Road, Wilberforce
Join us for corn on the cob, hot dogs, cake and ice cream. This year's party features a special performance by the Wilberforce Loop Troup. Visit www.facebook.com/wilberforceoutpost or contact Barb Schofield at 705-448-2598 or wilberforcebarb@yahoo.ca for more information

Land Trust Discovery Days Rock Walk II

When: Saturday Aug. 17, 10 a.m. to noon
Where: Barnum Creek Reserve
Join Geologist John Etches to discover the rich and diverse geology of Barnum Creek Nature Reserve. This event was so popular in 2023 that participants requested a Part Two! New and interesting information will be shared during this rock walk. Admission by donation. Pre-registration required at www.haliburtonlandtrust.ca. Contact 705-457-3700

Outpost Scrabble and Coffee

When: Wednesday, Aug. 21 starting at 10:30 a.m.
Where: Red Cross Outpost Museum, 2314 Loop Rd, Wilberforce
Words used with a connection to the Outpost win an extra 10 points. Visit www.facebook.com/wilberforceoutpost for more information or contact Barb Schofield at 705-448-2598 or wilberforcebarb@yahoo.ca.

Old Times Afternoon Tea

When: Saturday, Aug 24, 1:15 - 4 p.m.
Where: Red Cross Outpost Museum, 2314 Loop Road, Wilberforce
The Wilberforce Heritage Guild is hosting a tea party. Enjoy old fashioned tea and sweets. Bring a friend and make new ones in a special place. Visit www.facebook.com/wilberforceoutpost or contact Barb Schofield at 705-448-2598 or wilberforcebarb@yahoo.ca

Haliburton County Historical Society Annual Pork Roast Dinner

When: Saturday, Sept. 21, 5:30 p.m.
Where: Stanhope Firefighters Hall, 1123 Northshore Road
$30 per person. For tickets call 705-754-0427

‘Show Your Pride’ Decorating Challenge

Paint the town rainbow! Local businesses decorate in the run-up to Pride Week.

Minden Pride launches the “Show Your Pride” Decorating Contest to local businesses to amplify excitement in the lead-up to Pride Week.

On June 19, Minden Pride in the Haliburton Highlands announced the launch of the “Show Your Pride” Decorating Contest. A part of a broader community engagement initiative from Minden Pride, the contest offers businesses throughout the Haliburton Highlands the opportunity to showcase their creativity in a fun, visible and light-hearted contest.

Contest participants are invited to decorate their businesses, offices or storefronts with the theme “Show Your Pride”, then post their finished creations on social media, tagging Minden Pride (@minden_pride) before Aug. 15. Submissions would then be open for public voting and the winning team @ crowned@ on Sunday Aug. 25 at the Rainbow Street Festival in Minden.

“Our hope with the “Show your Pride” Decorating Contest is to engage the broader community in a highly visible way. Whether we’re residents, cottagers or tourists – when we explore our community and see businesses supporting pride, it creates a sense of excitement, showing solidarity for an underrepresented and marginalized community. Plus, it’s so fun to see what everyone comes up with!” said Chris Hewson, Committee Member.

‘Everyone is Welcome’ is this year’s theme for Pride Week. The theme was chosen by the Minden Pride planning committee to reflect the inclusive nature of Pride.

“Pride Week is a celebration of the vibrant diversity throughout the Haliburton Highlands. Coming into our 9th year, the planning committee is thrilled to offer a diverse range of programming across 15 events over the 7 days from Aug. 19 to 25. Our goal is to create an impactful, inclusive program that champions the spirit of respect, dignity and inclusivity. This year, I think we have something for everyone, and our theme was chosen both as an invitation and a rallying call” said Allan Guinan, chair of Minden Pride.

Minden Pride is a volunteer-driven, non-profit Haliburton County committee operating as part of Haliburton County Community Cooperative In. (HCCC Inc.).

Submitted

Motorcycle safety a two way street

The East Region Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) is calling on all motor vehicle operators to take steps to avoid more tragedies on the roads.

There have been several fatal motorcycle collisions recently across eastern Ontario, bringing the total number of deaths on OPP-patrolled roadways this year to 11. That’s up from eight at this time last year.

Fatal collisions, or ones resulting in serious injuries, are not solely the responsibility of the motorcycle riders. In many cases, the drivers of cars or trucks are at fault.

The primary causes of motorcycle collisions have included excessive speed, failing to yield the right of way, unsafe passing, and riders losing control of their motorcycles. Most happen on the highway and not at intersections.

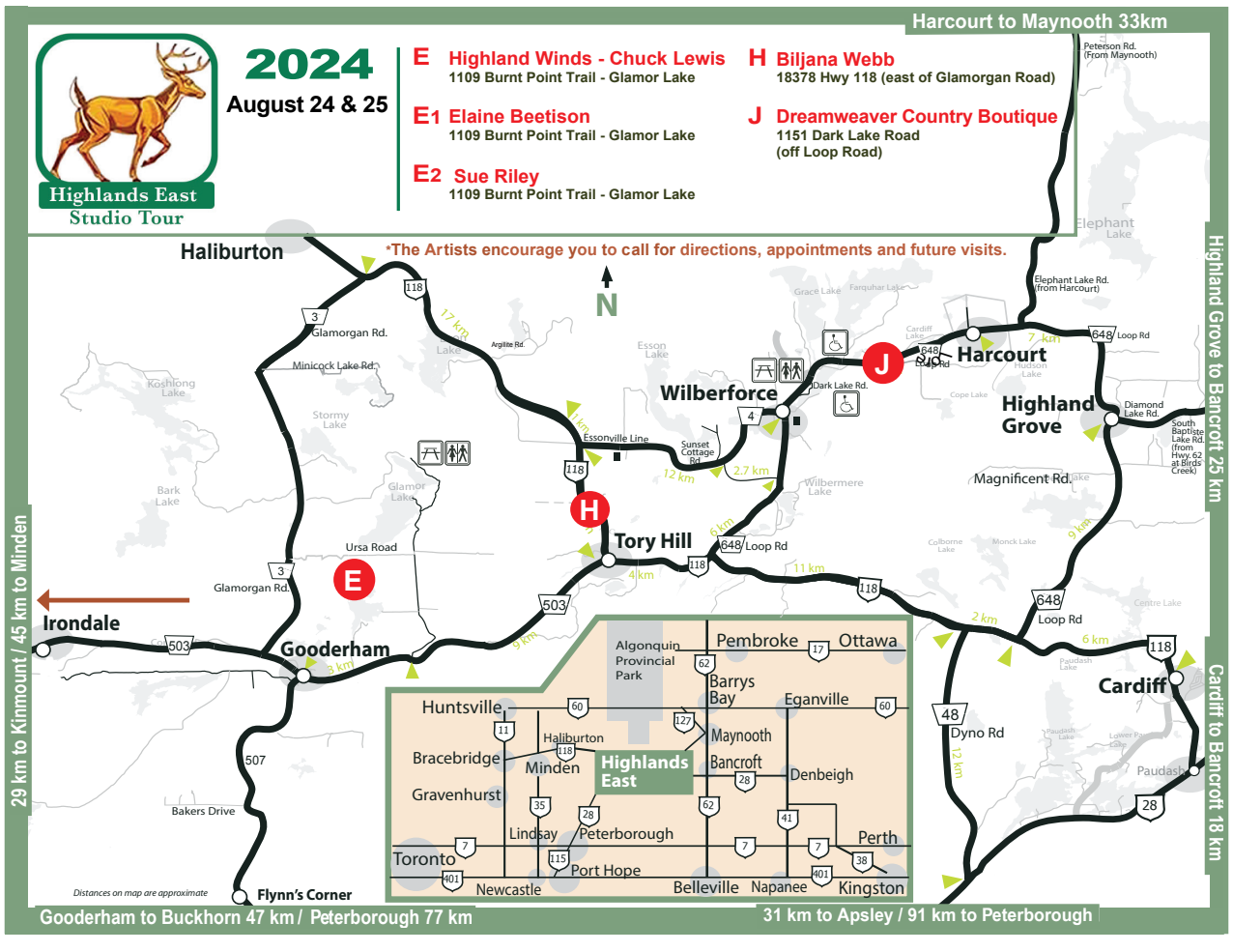
“Everyone wants to get to their destination safely, but everyone operating a vehicle on roads and highways, whether it has two wheels or more, must take responsibility for their driving behavior.” said Superintendent Darryl Sigouin, OPP East Region Headquarters

Motorcyclists must do their part by staying within the speed limit and complying with all traffic laws. All other drivers must be pay attention to the road and watch for motorcycles.

The OPP will have aircraft enforcement in eastern Ontario this week, focusing on speeding, impaired driving, distracted driving and occupant restraints.

Officers across OPP East Region will also be out, working to ensure safety on our highways and roads.

Submitted



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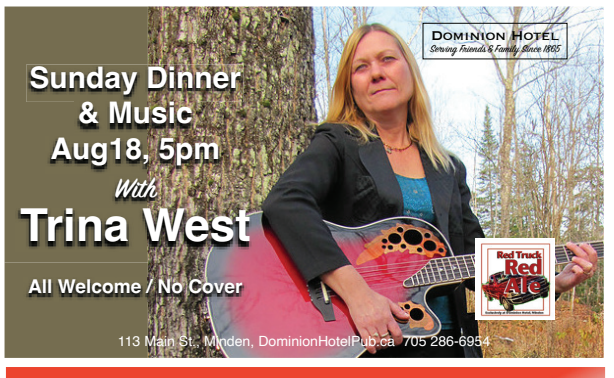

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Something's fishy

On Saturday Aug. 10, the Gull Lake Cottagers' Association held their annual Keith Kennedy Rock Bass Fishing Derby hosted by Miners' Bay Lodge. The tournament was open to all. The first place winners with more then 10 pounds of fish are pictured below. /TIM YANO Special to the *Times*

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8				5	4	3		
		9						1
			1				2	
					7			
3								8
		8					7	6
5				4		8		9
			6		1		4	2
	9							

Level: Intermediate

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Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Answers on page 16

Apartments for amphibians

A Toad House Building Workshop was held on Saturday Aug. 11 at Abbey Gardens. The sold out event was taught by Mary Anne Barkhouse for the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust's Partners in Conservation Workhop Series. /TIM YANO Special to the *Times*

Providing cover for green burials

The structure for the green burial site at St. Stephen's Cemetary was raised by Diezel Woodworks on Aug. 11. /TIM YANO Special to the *Times*

Township of Algonquin Highlands

NOTICE
Maple Lake Cemetery
St. Peters Cemetery
St. Stephens Cemetery
Zion Cemetery

The Corporation of the Township of Algonquin Highlands is submitting a By-law, to the Registrar of the Funeral, Burial, and Cremation Services Act, 2002, that will repeal and replace By-law 2022-68 being a By-law to regulate cemeteries in the Township of Algonquin Highlands.

Any interested parties may contact Sarah Hutson, Deputy Clerk, 705-489-2379 ext. 329 or email shutson@algonquinhighlands.ca for more information, or to receive a copy of the proposed By-law. The By-law may be reviewed or copied at the Township's Administration Office at 1123 North Shore Road, Algonquin Highlands.

The proposed By-law will also be available on the Municipal website at https://www.algonquinhighlands.ca/our-community/cemeteries/

The By-law is subject to the approval of the Registrar, Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002. Telephone: Bereavement Authority of Ontario, 647-483-2645 or 1-844-493-6356

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2	5	9	3	7	6	4	8	1
4	3	7	1	8	9	6	2	5
9	2	5	8	6	7	1	3	4
3	7	6	4	1	2	9	5	8
1	4	8	9	3	5	2	7	6
5	1	2	7	4	3	8	6	9
7	8	3	6	9	1	5	4	2
6	9	4	5	2	8	7	1	3

Highlands Opera Studio presents *Mishabooz's Realm*

by **VIVIAN COLLINGS**
Times Staff

Highlands Opera Studio (HOS) is celebrating 18 years of opera in Haliburton County this season with a captivating, important production.

Commissioned by HOS themselves, *Mishabooz's Realm* was written by the composer Andrew Balfour. It was originally produced and presented in 2017 in collaboration with L'Atelier lyrique de l'Opera de de Montreal.

Balfour is part of the Cree First Nation, and combined opera with instrumentalists and singers from the First Nations of Ontario.

"*Mishabooz's Realm* takes us on a journey through Creation, Colonization, and ultimately hope for the future," said HOS.

A special pre-performance chat, "Teachings from the Longhouse," will be offered by the Mohawk Elder Advisor and cast member of the production, Kevin Deer.

The 30-minute chats will take place on both evenings.

For tickets to Mishabooz's Realm, visit www.highlandsoperastudio.com.

They take place on Aug. 15 and 17 at 6:45 p.m. at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion in Haliburton.

Celebrating Pop to Opera

Another HOS event you won't want to miss this week is a feature of internationally-acclaimed artists performing their favourite music across all genres.

Join Nils Wanderer, counter-tenor from Germany, Lauren Margison, soprano, and Jennifer Szeto on piano on Friday, Aug. 16 for Celebrating Pop to Opera at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion from 7:30 to 9 p.m.

Admission is by donation, and this special event is a fundraiser for HOS.

"Not to be missed! Please give generously and support our professional artists."

/TIM YANO Special to the *Times*

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Two Highlands residents are here to tell their stories

Darlene Armstrong and Tammy Rea may not know each other but they share a similar story. Their breast cancer was caught early which means that they are alive today. And they want everyone to know just how important local access to digital mammography is for the women of Haliburton County.

The Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation (HHHS Foundation) Here for You in the Highlands campaign is raising money to ensure a new and state-of-the-art digital mammography unit is available in the County. Every dollar donated during the upcoming MooseFM Health Radiothon on Aug. 15 and 16 will receive two more dollars through two matching gifts. The new digital mammography equipment is expected to be installed and operating by the end of this year.

"Tragically, two members of my book club have died from cancer and I might have been another statistic in the club," says Gull Lake resident Tammy Rea. "I consider it a miracle. I'm one of the lucky ones as I was able to take the time and have the resources to travel outside the County for a mammogram."

Tammy was diagnosed with stage zero breast cancer, something that could only be detected through a screening mammogram. She received treatment quickly and is back to her busy life as a mom, wife, and community organizer. In July, she participated in the 15 kilometer swim challenge organized by the Canadian Cancer Society.

When Darlene Armstrong of Haliburton discovered a lump on her breast, she traveled to Peterborough for the mammogram that confirmed the diagnosis.

"I was very surprised to be diagnosed with breast cancer at the age of 45," said Darlene. "I live a healthy, active lifestyle. In 2018, I would not have qualified for regular mammogram screening because I was considered too young. I am pleased to hear the guidelines for screening are changing and women aged 40 will now qualify".

Given the family history and the results of her mammogram, the healthcare team was concerned the cancer would spread throughout her body. Darlene underwent successful chemotherapy and radiation. "To put it bluntly, screening says lives. It saved mine," she says. Darlene, who is on staff at HHHS and a county resident, is acutely aware of the need in the Haliburton Highlands.

Tammy and Darlene both stress the importance of regular mammograms but also know the strain in terms of time and money makes it difficult or impossible for many County residents to make the trip to Peterborough or Lindsay for the 15 minute diagnostic test. What is considered routine in urban centres can be a huge barrier for women in rural areas.

"I cannot overstate the importance of a getting a regular mammogram. How lucky we will be to have this screening test closer to our homes," says Darlene. For the past six years, she has taken a day off work to travel to Peterborough for her mammograms.

Local access to mammography will be especially important as the province recently announced that women over 40 will be regularly referred for a mammogram at their annual checkup. Women over 70 will have to continue to ask for their mammogram each year.

There are an estimated 6,000 women in the Highlands at risk of breast cancer who will benefit from easy access to digital mammography. It is a disease which can be successfully treated if caught early, as Tammy and Darlene can attest to.

"I am grateful I am here to use my voice to help bring this life saving equipment to Haliburton County," says Tammy. "My money is supporting mammography and I am encouraging everyone in this amazing community to do the same."

The HHHS Foundation is the recipient of the annual MooseFM Health Radiothon which takes place this year from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Aug. 15 and 16, presented by Minden Subaru and hosted by Rick Lowes.

How to support the Radiothon:

Online donations: www.hhhs.ca/foundation/give

Over the phone: 705-457-1580 or 705-286-1580

In-person donation locations (10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Aug. 15, 16):

• Beside Wind in the Willows, 152 Highland Street, Haliburton

• Todd's Independent Grocer, 5121 Haliburton County Rd 21, Haliburton • Dollo's Foodland, 12325 ON-35, Minden

• Parks' Foodland, 188 Highland Street, Haliburton

• Tim Horton's drive-thru in Minden

• MooseFm Radio station 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., 152 Highland Street, Haliburton

Limited hourly sponsorships available: call 705-457-1580, first come first served.

Plus special challenges and prizes throughout the day. To learn more about how HHHS is Here for You and how you can make a gift during the Radiothon which will be double matched, please visit the HHHS Foundation website: hhhs.ca/foundation.

For more information about the campaign and to discuss how you can get involved please contact, Executive Director, Melanie Klodt Wong at mklodtwong@hhhs.ca, 705-457-1580

Submitted

Charlie Angus and The Grievous Angels coming to Haliburton

MP Charlie Angus and his band The Grievous Angels will be performing a fundraising concert for Places for People on Saturday, Aug. 31 at Haliburton Forest Historic Logging Museum.

This is a special event concert. Angus is an outspoken advocate for affordable housing especially in rural communities like Haliburton. It's something near and dear to his heart in the area he represents as the MP for Timmins-James Bay.

Places for People has a unique approach to providing affordable housing in Haliburton County with 20 residential units. Since 2010 P4P has provided homes for more than 100 people in our community. In 2023, through a Community Bond Raise the community invested $850,000 which allowed the organization to consolidate mortgages and obtain two new dwellings with 13 units. Their goal is to build new affordable units to address the ongoing need in the County.

Tenants in Haliburton County spend nearly 50 per cent of their income on housing according to a recent study. People working full time earning minimum wage can barely survive in this community and finding affordable housing is the main reason (Haliburton County Community Safety and Well-being Plan). This impacts everyone from employers to tourists and local residents.

This event is presented by the Telling our Stories Speakers series and the Haliburton County Folk Society. All proceeds are going to Places for People. Haliburton Forest and Wildlife Reserve have graciously donated the facility for the evening. Thanks also to our media sponsor CanoeFM.

There will be a Toonie auction. Items include a Haliburton Forest gift certificate, tickets to the 2024/25 Telling our Stories Speakers series and tickets to one Haliburton County Folk Society concert.

Bring your toonies.

Tickets: haliburtonfolk.com

Where: Haliburton Forest and Wildlife Reserve in the Historic Logging Museum When: 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 31.

There will be a bar - cash only.

Please consider making a donation info@placesforpeople.ca placesforpeople.ca During the month of August there is a campaign to get 20 monthly donors. Follow us on Instagram and Facebook

For more information about the concert contact Sean Pennylegion pennylegion@gmail.com For Places For People Susan Tromanhauser susan.tromanhauser@gmail.com

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FESTIVAL OPENING RECEPTION
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Location: Up River Trading Co., Minden

MEET AND GREET
Time: 5:00 pm
Location: Bonnie View Inn,
2713 Kashawagamog Lake Road

TUESDAY AUGUST 20TH
DRAG STORYTIME – MINDEN
Time:: 3:00 pm
Location: Minden Library

VOICE OF PRIDE ART EXHIBITION RECEPTION
Time: 5:00pm
Location: Minden Hills Cultural Centre

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 21ST
YOUTH PRIDE DAY
Time: 11:00 -2:00pm
Location: Haliburton Youth Wellness Hub
12 Dysart Ave., Haliburton

QUEER COMEDY NIGHT
Time: 7:00
Location: Sir Sams Ski and Bike/ Eagle View

THURSDAY AUGUST 22ND
DRAG STORYTIME – HALIBURTON
Time: 3:00 pm
Location: Haliburton Library

QUEER TRIVIA NIGHT
Time: 7:00
Location: The Dominion Hotel, Minden

FRIDAY AUGUST 23RD
FAMILY MOVIE MATINEE
Time: 1:00-3:00
Location: Minden Cultural Centre

BURLESQUE BALL – DECO-DANCE
Time: 7:00pm **Location:** Pinestone Resort

SATURDAY AUGUST 24TH
MAD HATTER TEA DANCE
Time: 1:00 – 4:00pm
Location: Hook Line and Sinker, Haliburton

SUNDAY AUGUST 25TH
RAINBOW STREET FESTIVAL 2023
Time: 11:00 – 3:00pm
Location: Water Street

PRIDE RIVER PARADE
Time:12:00 – 1:00 launch
Location: Gull River, Rotary Park

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650 OBITUARIES

In Loving Memory of
Eleanor "Elly" Patricia Malcomson

It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of Eleanor 'Elly' Patricia Malcomson, who departed this life on August 3, 2024, at the age of 87, after a sudden and brief illness.

Elly was the loving wife of the late Jim Malcomson, to whom she was married for 55 wonderful years until his passing in 2017. She was a dedicated mother to her daughters, Nancy (Elliott) and her husband Michael, and Sherryl Malcomson (Crompton) and her husband Andrew. Her grandchildren, Tristan and Rachael Crompton, and Alex Elliott, will forever hold her in their hearts.

Elly and Jim shared a lifetime of memories, having met as children in Mimico and attending high school together. Elly went on to earn a degree in Library Sciences from the University of Toronto, subsequently dedicating her career to the Toronto Public Library. Her work took her to libraries in Leaside and East York, where she touched many with her warmth and expertise.

Beyond her professional life, Elly was a passionate musician. She directed the choir at St. Phillips' Anglican Church in Unionville, where she also founded the community choir 'Village Voices,' which she directed for many years. Her love for music extended to the stage, where she performed in numerous Gilbert & Sullivan plays.

After retirement, Elly and Jim moved to the Haliburton Highlands, enjoying life on Twelve Mile Lake and in the towns of Haliburton and Minden. Elly cherished her time at the lake, where she found peace in the watching the loons and joy in her morning swims where she was occasionally accompanied by the loons. Elly and Jim's home at the lake was always open for their children's friends and families, with games, cookies, water fights, comic books and campfire songs available to all.

Elly continued to enrich the community with her musical talents, singing in the Zion Church Choir, which later became the Highland Hills Church Choir, and performing with the Highlands Festival Singers for nearly 30 years. She was also part of a trio called the Trivocals, delighting audiences with many songs including their rendition of 'Sisters.'

Elly's community spirit was also evident in her volunteer work. She was actively involved with the Friends of the Library, organizing the Book Club Gala, and working tirelessly to help open the library in Minden.

A Service to Celebrate Elly's Life will be held at the Highland Hills United Church, 21 Newcastle St., Minden on Friday, August 16, 2024 at 1:00 pm. Reception to follow at the Church (downstairs). Cremation has taken place.

Elly's life was a testament to her dedication to family, music, and community. She leaves behind a legacy of love, harmony, and service, and she will be dearly missed by all who knew her. Donations can be made to Friends of the Haliburton County Public Library (cheques only) or the Highland Hills United Church (Minden United Church), in tribute to Elly's lifelong commitment to community service and the arts. Donations can be arranged through the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., P.O. Box 427, Minden K0M 2K0

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Minden businesses summered well

by BRYN WEESE
Times Staff

The end of summer is nigh. With the heat of these past few months, many are wondering how the local Minden businesses did. The answer is unequivocally "great!"

For many businesses, this summer was more successful than they had hoped. Given the weather, many storeowners are very pleased with the business they have had this summer.

"This has been by far our best summer," says Sue Yallop from That Place in Carnarvon. "I think everyone is having a good summer."

Yallop specifically mentioned the weather as a cause to her good fortune. "The weather is worth staying up for," she says.

The wickedly hot weather of the past few months did have some business owners worried, such as Greg Turner from the Peppermill, who said that sometimes when the weather is very hot, there is a tendency not to want to leave the lake.

Despite his fears, Turner reported that the Pepper Mill did have a very successful summer season and is looking forward to the fall.

Another restaurant that fared well this sum-

see EVEN *page 2*

LOOK INSIDE

Church life

Helen Skelding has always found a way to attend Zion United Church.

See page 3

Driven to succeed

15-year-old Mike Lennox is working hard towards his goal of being a top golfer

See page 13

Natural classroom

The learning comes naturally when museum hosts a special camp

See page 10

See spot jump

The Haliburton County Fair was fun for everyone – even your pet pooch

See page 17

In Quotes

"It's our garbage. We need to deal with it."

Napier Simpson doesn't take the NIMBY approach to township's plans for Maple Lake landfill

See page 1

Bryn Weese/TIMES

Thumbs up for cancer camps

In the early hours of August 13 on County Road 121, Tour for Kids riders took to the highways heading for Bobcaygeon on the third day of the fundraising ride. So far the event has raised $400,000 to send children who have cancer to summer camp. Story page 12.

Maple Lake gives landfill plan tentative approval

by BRYN WEESE
Times Staff

The Maple, Beech and Cameron Lakes Association is waiting to make a formal stance on Algonquin Highlands' proposed Waste Management Plan until the final public meeting is held.

A lack of advertising and a delay in mailing out the 2004 tax bills resulted in very low turnout at the public meetings on August 4 and 6. The township, in accordance with the requirements of the provincial government, has scheduled a third public meeting for Wednesday August 31 in the Stanhope Firefighters' Hall between 7 and 9 p.m. The Ontario government requires that sufficient public consultation be held for such matters.

The association has not formally voted to support the proposed Waste Management Plan but has been recommended to do so, says acting association president Paul MacInnes.

Other members of the executive also support the plan.

"It is our garbage," said Napier Simpson, acting vice president. "We need to deal with it."

MacInnes said the executive has recommended that the association supports the proposed septage lagoon plan at the Maple Lake landfill. He said that both plans were well conceived and necessary, given the short lifespan left at Algonquin Highlands' landfill sites and the Ontario government's decision to stop allowing untreated septage to be spread on fields.

Despite MacInnes' and Simpson's overall support of the plans, the official policy of the

see MEMBERS *page 2*

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